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Complete

THE ANNUAL REPORTS
FOR 1895,
OF THE
SANITARY CONDITION
OF THE
URBAN & RURAL
SANITARY DISTRICTS
OF
TAUNTON.

ALSO THE
SANITARY HOSPITAL.

BY
HENRY J. ALFORD, M.D., LOND.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

TAUNTON:
E. GOODMAN AND SON, PHOENIX PRINTING WORKS, NORTH STREET.

1896.

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TAUNTON URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health, for the Year 1895.

Population of District (1891)	...	...	18,026
Estimated Population to middle of 1895	...	...	18,590
Area in Statute Acres...	...	...	1,249
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	...	...	30.0
Death Rate per 1,000 Population	...	...	15.4
Zymotic Death Rate ...	...	...	1.5
Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births	...	...	12.1

*To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the
Borough of Taunton.*

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report of the Health of the Borough of Taunton for the year 1895.

The health of the Town has been good, and will be found to compare very favourably with former years.

On November 1st, 1895, a considerable addition was made to the Municipal Borough. Portions of the Parishes of Staplegrove, Taunton St. James (without), West Monkton, and Taunton St. Mary (without) being now included in the Urban District.

This has given an increased area to the Borough of 188 acres, and an additional population which may be estimated at 1,100. This makes the total area of the Borough at the present time 1,437 acres, and the estimated population 19,690.

As, however, it was at the close of the year that these areas came in, I have made all the calculations in the present report on the estimated population of the Old Borough to the middle of the year, viz., 18,590.

I. WATER SUPPLY.

I am indebted to Mr. H. Coles, your Water Manager, for some particulars with regard to the work done in this department during the year.

The chief work has been the extension of mains to the newly added area at Staplegrove, and to the additional new streets and roads in the Borough. As many of the wells on the newly-acquired properties at Fairwater are polluted, the pure supply from the Town will be a great boon. It will, moreover, ensure the better flushing of closets and drains, which before was very deficient. The automatic flushing tank, also, at the end of the new sewer, will be flushed by means of a supply of Town water, instead of from a pump.

A great deal of time, labour and expense, moreover, is now saved by filling the water-vans from the mains instead of from wells as formerly. By this new plan the vans, which hold eight hogsheads, are filled in two minutes, whereas the old plan of filling them by pumping took half-an-hour.

The water has been also used for flushing the sewers of the Town periodically. Notwithstanding the long periods of drought which occurred, no perceptible diminution of supply resulted. The supply is all but constant, and its quality maintains its former excellence.

I have during the year had occasion to analyse a number of samples of well water in the Town, and have found them impure. As I have so often insisted on in my former reports, no well water can be looked upon as free from danger, and with such an ample and good supply as is afforded from the Blackdown Hills, no well should be used.

2. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

In my last year's report I mentioned Mr. Naylor's report to the County Council, condemning the effluent from the Sewage Works as being so impure as not to be fit to pour into the River. The subject has received from your Council a considerable amount of attention during the year. In the month of July I reported to the Sanitary and Drainage Committee on the subject, and my report was published, together with the analyses of the effluent by Messrs. Naylor and Stoddart, and also a report from your Borough Surveyor, Mr. Smith.

The outcome of a great deal of discussion was that the Council met at the Sewage Works, on October 11th, and then agreed to ask Mr. Naylor to inspect the works and advise on the best means to be adopted to put them into a satis-

factory condition. This he did on October 17th, and his report followed on November 11th. The two plans for purifying the effluent were either by its application to land, either on the north or south side of the works, or filtration through polarite. The report was considered by your Council, and it was determined to take further opinion on the subject of filtration through coke breeze. At the present time no further steps have been taken.

The following appears to me to be a fair summary of the past and present state of the works.

For many years the works were comparatively free from nuisance, the effluent was clear and generally inodorous, and persons have wondered why works which for so long were so pleasant to the eye of visitors should now be condemned. The truth is that the chemical condition of the effluent was never what it should be, but, as compared with former times, matters were greatly improved, it was considered that the necessary requirements were, at all events for the time, fulfilled. But after a while the management of the works deteriorated. Nuisances arose, not only from the accumulation of sludge, but from the receiving tank, occasionally from the precipitating tanks, and also from the effluent itself. This is not to be wondered at, for the best known system if not properly looked after will be a failure. What was formerly employed here as a precipitant was lime, common salt, and carbolic acid in small quantities, and on account of the salt used was named by the Surveyor the "sodium" process, he maintaining that the effect of the salt was to get rid of the smell. As a precipitant or purifier it was of no use. Later on he added iron sulphate to the other precipitants. But the means of filtration were wholly inadequate, and the small filter used became so foul that instead of purifying the sewage, it tended to make it worse. In my report, in order to remedy this state of things, I suggested four points to be attended to:—

1. As regards the *precipitant*:—I considered lime and iron sulphate would accomplish the object without common salt or carbolic acid (which I look upon as useless), and I advised that the expense of these could be saved with advantage. It is very necessary, however, that the quantities of, and mode of using the precipitants should be very carefully carried out.

2. The *receiving tank* required constant and thorough cleansing. If neglected it became most offensive, and rendered the sewage more putrescent than ever.

3. The *filter bed* being useless, or worse, I suggested that the effluent should be applied to land, or run through an

efficient filter. I advised a Polarite one, as from what I learn it acts very efficiently, and does not require the great care that a biological filter (of coke breeze) would.

4. To get rid of the ever increasing nuisance caused by the great open *sludge* pits, I advised that sludge presses be used.

I am still of opinion that these suggestions should be carried out to ensure a satisfactory condition of works and effluent.

A sub-committee was appointed by your Sanitary and Drainage Committee to endeavour to improve matters.

They met weekly at the works. Much greater cleanliness resulted. The lime and iron precipitants did well, but the filter beds, which were of coke breeze, were not of such a character as to render the effluent sufficiently pure to satisfy the requirements of the River Pollution Commissioners. This was no fault of the sub-committee. The area was only that of the former filter, and to construct coke breeze filters of sufficient size to prove effectual, was estimated by your Surveyor to cost £4,000, whereas a polarite one, as suggested by Mr. Naylor, would cost about £2,200. It is to be remembered that the works are very severely handicapped by two important facts—(1) The putrescent character of the sewage on its arrival at the works—fresh sewage being much more easily dealt with—and (2) the enormous quantity of water which finds its way into the sewers. Half a million gallons per diem should be the outside limit to be dealt with at the works, whereas it is really increased from one to one and-a-half millions, by the water which leaks into the sewers. We have frequently found that the receiving tank (which holds one million gallons) when emptied at 7 p.m., will be nearly full at 6 a.m. the next morning, even in a dry season, no factories being at work, and hardly any sewage getting there.

It is interesting to note that in a letter received from the Local Government Board, on September 21st, it was recommended :—

1. That the receiving tank be kept clean.
2. That better precipitants be used than formerly.
3. That the effluent be applied to land.
4. That the sludge be pressed.

In the face of all this testimony, it appears to me that the course to be pursued is very clear in order to ensure the efficient condition of the works.

As regards the sewers in the Town, I regret that they

are not more efficiently ventilated. Unfortunately ventilation at the road level cannot be used, as the nuisance arising therefrom is very great. This shows that notwithstanding the large quantities of water passing through them the sewers are not efficiently cleansed. The blind ends of sewers, especially in the dry season, are (as I have already stated) flushed from the mains, either from automatic tanks, or by valves.

With regard to house drains, I regret to state that in a large number of cases they are very faulty. The application of the smoke test to these has taken up a large amount of your Inspector's time, for he has tested no less than 362 during the year, of which he found 277 faulty. It is a subject, however, of congratulation to know that these faulty drains are being discovered, and are being put right.

I have found some cases in which soil-pipes or drain ventilators have been placed in close proximity to windows; this, too, in new houses. Such should never occur, as the plans have passed your Council, and such a dangerous condition should not be tolerated.

Mortality during the Year 1895.

The total deaths in the Borough were 288.

This includes all those who died in Public Institutions who were residents in the Borough.

This is at the rate of 15·4 per 1,000 of the population.

The average of the preceding ten years was 17·2 per 1,000.

LOCALITIES.

Of these 288 deaths

116	occurred in	St. Mary's District
138	„ „	St. James' „
23	„ „	The Taunton and Somerset Hospital
11	„ „	The Union Workhouse

SEXES.

As regards the sexes, 158 were males, and 130 females.

AGES AT DEATH.

The ages at death were as follows :—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	70
1 to 5 years	...	...	...	30
5 to 15 „	...	...	...	10
15 to 25 „	...	...	...	17
25 to 60 „	...	...	...	57
Over 60 „	...	...	...	104

DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

The total deaths in Public Institutions were 70, viz. : 49 in the Taunton and Somerset Hospital, and 21 in the Union Workhouse. As already stated, 34 of these were residents in the Borough.

Causes of Death.

1. *Zymotic Diseases*.—The number of deaths from the several Zymotic Diseases was 25 in the Borough, but to these three must be added who died in the Sanitary Hospital, being residents in the Borough.

These 28 deaths were thus caused :—

	Cases.
Scarlet Fever	1
Diphtheria	3
Enteric Fever	1
Whooping Cough	13
Diarrhœa	10

This makes a Zymotic death-rate of 1·5 per 1,000.

2. *Other Diseases*.—The deaths from other diseases were as follow :—Croup, 2 ; Phthisis, 22 ; Bronchitis, Pleurisy and Pneumonia, 23 ; Injuries, 6 ; and other diseases, 207 ; making, with the 28 Zymotic Diseases, the total of 288.

Births during 1895.

The total births during the year were 576, or at the rate of 30 per 1,000 of the population.

Of these 237 occurred in St. Mary's, and 339 in St. James' district.

The infant mortality during the year was 121 per 1,000 Births.

Action taken during the Year to prevent the Spread of Disease.

1. NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

I received during 1895, 98 Certificates of notification of Infectious Diseases. This is much fewer than the preceding year, when the number was 203.

41 of these 98 cases were in St. Mary's, and 55 in St. James' District, and 2 in the Taunton and Somerset Hospital.

The following table will show at a glance the Diseases notified and the districts in which they occurred :—

Number of Certificates.		St. Mary's District.	St. James' District.	T. and S. Hospital.	Total.
Small Pox	... ..	—	1	—	1
Scarlet Fever	... ..	19	33	1	53
Diphtheria	... ..	11	10	—	21
Membranous Croup	... ..	1	2	—	3
Enteric Fever	... ..	5	1	—	6
Puerperal Fever	... ..	1	—	—	1
Erysipelas	... ..	4	8	1	13
		—	—	—	—
		41	55	2	98

Of these 98 cases no less than 64 were removed to the Sanitary Hospital.

2. THE SANITARY HOSPITAL.

Of the 69 cases admitted into the Sanitary Hospital during the year, no less than 64 were from the Urban District.

The following table gives the Diseases and District:—

	Small Pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Total.
1. Taunton St. Mary's District	...	14	3	...	17
2. Taunton St. James' District	1	30	12	3	46
3. Taunton and Somerset Hospital	...	1	...	...	1
	—	—	—	—	—
	1	45	15	3	64

The total number of cases admitted since the opening of the Hospital is 1,347, of which 922 have been from the Borough of Taunton.

A full account will be found in my Annual Report of the Hospital, which is appended to this Report.

3. Disinfection.

The usual gratuitous disinfection of houses, beds and clothing has been carried out during the year in all cases of Infectious Diseases.

I have on several occasions mentioned the need of a new disinfecting chamber. The old one in Magdalene Street has, after twenty years' work, got worn out, and it is necessary that a new one should be obtained. I would recommend that a steam disinfector be obtained with as little delay as possible.

4. Sickness during 1895.

Scarlet Fever of a mild type has been prevalent during

1895. The cases have not been numerous, and nothing like an epidemic has occurred; still case after case appeared from month to month during the year. In fact one may almost look upon the disease as endemic, which it undoubtedly is in many of the larger towns of the country.

When one considers the great infectiousness of the disease, the long life of the specific virus, and the great ease with which it is communicated, and the numberless channels through which it may be carried, one ceases to wonder at its presence.

The northern part of the town supplied the largest number of cases, 33 occurring in St. James' Registration District, as against 19 in St. Mary's.

Diphtheria.—Cases of this disease have occurred, but here again nothing like an epidemic ensued, and the majority of cases were very mild.

Small Pox.—One case of small pox occurred. It was an adult, and the case was clearly traceable to the East End of London, where the disease was prevalent, and from which the patient came. She was at once removed to the Sanitary Hospital; re-vaccination of the inmates of the House, and thorough disinfection was carried out, and the disease did not spread.

Enteric Fever.—There were a few cases of this disease during the year. Some were introduced from without, and others appeared traceable to the drinking of sewage polluted well water.

Diarrhæa.—This disease, once so prevalent, but recently rare, appeared in September, when the weather was abnormally hot. The chief cases occurred in a part of the town remarkable for its unsanitary surroundings.

Action taken during the year for Sanitary purposes, over places and houses.

I. HOUSE INSPECTION.

I have, with your Inspector, visited all parts of the Borough.

As will be seen by the Inspector's report, the number of houses inspected by him was 1,048.

The number of houses cleansed and limewashed, 193; the number of house drains repaired, re-laid, &c., 277; number of re-inspections, 143; water closets repaired, 438; and houses disinfected after infectious diseases, 78.

A few cases of overcrowding have been discovered and dealt with.

Dust removal has been seen to in no less than 531 cases, and animals kept in an unsanitary state occurred in 31 instances.

The subject of house drainage I have already mentioned. In my Report for 1894, I stated that the smoke test was applied in 335 cases, and repairs were required in 302 of them—so that in the two years it was applied in 697 cases, which necessitated repairs or relaying in 579. This does not speak very well for the manner in which such work has been done in past years. The public being now more fully alive to the dangers arising therefrom, we may expect a great improvement in the future.

2. WATER SUPPLY.

I have during the year condemned 23 wells as providing water unfit for use. The Corporation water has been laid in 25 cases. Cisterns, too, have required attention—33 were found to require cleansing, repairing or covering.

I am happy to state that the custom is now becoming general of drawing water for drinking purposes direct from the mains, instead of from the closet cistern, which was too frequently done formerly.

3. DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

These have been frequently inspected during the year, and as a rule are kept in a good sanitary condition.

4. BAKEHOUSES AND SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

The same remarks will apply to these. They have been frequently visited, and their sanitary state is good.

5. LODGING HOUSES.

There are only two registered lodging houses, and these are fairly good.

The Meteorology of 1895.

The Meteorology of the year 1895 was very remarkable.

The two chief points were the very cold weather of February, and the very warm weather in September.

The winter of 1894-5 had been fairly moderate until the end of January, when the thermometer fell to 14° , and in the second week of February it reached its minimum, viz., 7° on the 9th. The result of this cold was a general prevalence of pulmonary affections, and a rise in the death-rate from the same cause.

The month of September, on the other hand, was remarkably fine and warm. On the 10th, 25th, and 27th of this month the thermometer exceeded 80° in the shade, standing at 82° on the 10th, 80° on the 25th, and 81° on the 27th.

In consequence of this abnormal heat and a paucity of rain, diarrhoea was prevalent during the month, and the deaths from this cause exceeded those of preceding years.

The rainfall was also remarkable during the year. In the month of February it only fell on two days, during May only on one day, and during September only on five days, the amount I collected being respectively, $\cdot 77$, $\cdot 21$, and $\cdot 30$ inch during the three months. Then, as to compensate for this, the rainfall for November and December was very heavy. During the former month rain fell on 23 days out of the 30, and I registered $5\cdot 98$ inches; and during December it fell on 22 days, and the amount was $3\cdot 49$ inches.

In this way the rainfall was brought nearer to the average, although still below it, the total amount for the year being $26\cdot 68$ inches, and the number of days on which it fell being 136.

Appended to this Report will be found a table giving the mean height of the barometer, mean temperature of the air, the number of days rain fell, and the amount collected during each month of the year.

Besides this table are the tables A and B, as required by the Local Government Board, giving the mortality, &c., and sickness returns, a table showing the mortality for the various years since I have been Medical Officer of Health (1873-96), and the report of your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. J. W. Northcombe.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HENRY J. ALFORD, M.D., LOND.,

Medical Officer of Health.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT FOR 1895.

MONTH.	MEAN HEIGHT OF BAROMETER.	MEAN TEMPERATURE OF AIR.	RAINFALL.	
			DAYS IT FELL.	AMOUNT IN INCHES.
January ...	29·68	33·9	12	3·37
February ...	30·04	27·6	2	·77
March ...	29·69	42·1	16	2·24
April ...	29·87	48·8	10	1·79
May ..	30·02	59·3	1	·21
June ...	30·11	61·9	7	1·08
July ...	29·84	62·9	13	2·52
August ...	29·38	61·2	11	2·03
September ...	30·11	60·7	5	·30
October ...	29·50	47·7	14	2·90
November ...	29·96	47·9	23	5·98
December ...	29·71	42·5	22	3·49

TAUNTON RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health, for the Year 1895.

Population of District (1891)	...	...	19,753
Estimated Population to middle of 1895	...	...	18,448
Area in Statute Acres...	...	...	68,282
Birth Rate per 1,000 of Population	...	...	27.0
Death Rate per 1,000 of Population	...	...	15.7
Zymotic Death Rate	...	...	0.16
Infant Mortality per 1,000 Births	...	...	108.9

To the Taunton Rural Sanitary Authority.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report of the Health of the District for the year 1895.

The year has been a healthy one, and has been remarkable for its comparative freedom from Zymotic Diseases.

A considerable amount of work has been done in various parts of the district, as the following report will show.

District ~~Borough~~ I may here state that both the area and population of the ~~Borough~~ have been decreased. In the month of November portions of the parishes of Staplegrove, Taunton St. James, West Monkton and Taunton St. Mary, were included in the Borough of Taunton. This deprives the Rural District of an area of 188 acres, and 1,100 population, so that at the present time the total area is 68,094 acres, and the population 17,348. As, however, it was at the end of the year that this took place, I have made all my calculations for 1895 on its former area and population.

I. Sanitary Condition of District.

I. WATER SUPPLY.

I have analysed a large number of samples of water from various parts of the district during the year, and in only too many instances have found them polluted with sewage. This has specially been the case in the following parishes:—Norton, Halse, Churchstanton, Pitminster, West Monkton (especially at Bathpool), Ruishton, and Staplegrove.

As regards Bishop's Lydeard, great progress has been made to provide the village with a pure supply. As I mentioned in my last report, through the generous action of J. E. Esdaile, Esq., of Cothelstone House, a pure and abundant supply is offered free of cost. Early in the year, at a Parochial Committee, it was unanimously agreed that such a supply was necessary, and that Mr. Esdaile's offer be thankfully accepted. A number of meetings of this Committee took place during the year, and the result of them was that the advice of Mr. H. Coles, the Manager of the Taunton Water Works, was invoked, and a very satisfactory report, with plans, specifications, and estimates, submitted.

In the month of October, Col. Durnford was sent by the Local Government Board to hold an enquiry on the subject, and collected a considerable amount of evidence, and also visited the site of the spring.

I had previously made a quantitative analysis of the water, which proved to be very good. It is harder than the water obtained for the Town of Taunton, as was only to be expected, seeing that the latter is obtained from the upper greensand, and the former from the new red sandstone. The Local Government Board have since made certain suggestions, which have been considered, and the lawyers only stop the way on a matter of detail with regard to the agreement between Mr. Esdaile and the Parish.

I made a thorough inspection of the village with Major Wise and other members of the Committee, accompanied by Mr. Coles, to decide on the various spots at which the water should be delivered.

It is to be hoped that there will be no more delay, but that the village will soon have the blessing of a pure water supply, nearly every well in the place being more or less polluted with sewage. The amount proposed to be borrowed to carry out these works is £1,300.

The subject of the water supply of Staplegrove was a subject which would have required your serious attention, but

as a considerable portion has been now incorporated with the Borough, it is taken out of your jurisdiction. Moreover, Mr. Turner having obtained the sanction of the Taunton Town Council, the Corporation water is laid on to his residence at Pinkhurst, and any premises *en route* requiring a pure supply can easily have it.

2. Sewerage and Drainage.

The chief event of the year under this head was the completion of the drainage of Staplegrove at a cost of £800. The new sewer now extends from Greenway Lane to a point near the St. James' Cemetery, where it empties into the Town sewer. At its northern extremity is an automatic flushing tank. In November the whole of this portion of the parish of Staplegrove became incorporated with the Borough of Taunton, and this sewer is now under their jurisdiction. Unfortunately, soon after they became possessors the flushing tank collapsed, and has since had to be rebuilt.

The drainage of the rural portion of this parish is still under the consideration of your Council. Some few years ago the overflow of the cesspools, which received the sewage, was taken a long distance by a pipe drain across a field near the Elm, and so removed from an open ditch near some cottages. A great nuisance was thus abated, but now the new owner objects to the delivery of the sewage on his land, and the whole matter has to be reconsidered and possibly reconstructed at some considerable cost.

The drainage of Galmington has received attention, and it is to be hoped is satisfactorily settled. The sewage is all conveyed by an old sewer to a large cesspool in an orchard. The overflow from this used to cause a considerable nuisance. The cesspool is now furnished with a pump and sewage cart, and its contents are to be periodically pumped out and utilised by the farmer on the adjacent farm.

At Bishop's Hull some works have been carried out in order to put the drainage of the village into a sanitary condition.

At Norton Fitzwarren the tanks at one time caused a great nuisance for want of attention. They are now more frequently emptied, and this is abated. The flushing of the sewers has also been improved. But I fear the field where the sub-irrigation takes place will soon require to be dealt with, for if it is not in good working condition a nuisance will soon arise.

A new sewer has during the year been laid in the village of Halse.

The oft-recurring subject of the drainage of Trull has again cropped up, and the Parochial Committee has again been asked to consider the matter. In this case the vexed question of "sewer" and "drain" arises in several instances, and having regard to the uncertainty of the subject both as regards the law and recent decisions, it has been decided to take counsel's opinion on the matter.

3. Houses.

During the year a large number of houses have been cleansed and limewashed. The condition, however, of dwellings has improved, but still requires constant supervision to ensure their being kept in a good sanitary state. I need hardly remark that the habits of the inmates contribute greatly to cleanliness or the reverse.

The surroundings of the house require as much attention as the house itself. There is still a great tendency to keep pigs, fowls, &c., close to dwellings, and in a filthy condition. Cesspools are still frequently neglected, and slops are thrown on the surface, causing a nuisance. The only remedy for this is a constant house-to-house inspection. Taking it on the whole, however, both Landlords and Tenants have greatly improved in their endeavours to keep houses and premises in a better sanitary condition.

4. Mortality during the Year 1895.

The total Deaths in the District during the year were 273—5 of these, however, occurred in the Sanitary Hospital (situated in St. James' without), but being all Urban cases, must be deducted, leaving 268. On the other hand, 22 deaths occurred in the Taunton and Somerset Hospital and Union Workhouse. These institutions are situated in Taunton Urban District, but as the 22 were residents in the Rural portion, must be credited to that District.

This leaves the total number of Deaths as 290, or at the rate of 15·7 per 1,000 of the population.

LOCALITIES.

Of these 290 Deaths, 38 occurred in the Pitminster Registration District, 82 in North Curry, 18 in Taunton St. Mary (without), 79 in Taunton St. James (without), and 51 in Bishop's Lydeard District. To these must be added 7 residents who died in the Union Workhouse, and 15 in the Taunton and Somerset Hospital.

SEXES.

131 of these 290 Deaths were Males, and 159 Females.

AGES AT DEATH.

The ages at death were as follows:—

Under 1 year	...	...	55
1 to 5 years	...	...	16
5 to 15 „	...	...	7
15 to 25 „	...	...	15
25 to 60 „	...	...	58
Over 60 „	...	...	139
			<hr/>
			290

The infant mortality, or deaths of infants under one year of age, was 55, or at the rate of 108·9 per 1,000 births.

DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

The Deaths in Public Institutions were 5—in the Sanitary Hospital. These, as already stated, were all Urban cases, and have, therefore, not been counted amongst the Deaths in the Rural District.

Causes of Death.

1. *Zymotic Diseases*.—There were only 3 deaths from Zymotic Diseases in the district during the year, viz.:—1 from Diphtheria, 1 from Whooping Cough, and 1 from Diarrhœa. This is very low, being only at the rate of 0·16 per 1,000.

The 5 Deaths in the Sanitary Hospital, which is situated in the District of Taunton St. James (without), were due to the following causes:—2 to Diphtheria, 1 to Membraneous Croup, 1 to Enteric Fever, and 1 to Spinal Disease.

The 3 Deaths which occurred in the District were in the following:—

- 1 Diphtheria in North Curry District.
- 1 Whooping Cough in Taunton St. Mary District.
- 1 Diarrhœa in Taunton St. James' District.

2. *Other Diseases*.—The causes of the other deaths were as follow:—1 from Membraneous Croup, 1 from Rheumatic Fever, 19 from Phthisis, 44 from Pleurisy, Bronchitis or Pneumonia, 29 from Heart Disease, 6 from Injuries, and 165 from other Diseases.

Births during the Year 1895.

The Births during the year were 505, or at the rate of 27·4 per 1,000 of the population. 105 of these Births occurred

in the Pitminster District, 162 in North Curry, 27 in Taunton St. Mary, 137 in Taunton St. James, and 74 in Bishop's Lydeard District.

Action taken during the Year to prevent the Spread of Disease.

1. NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of certificates I received under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act were only 41, as against 71 in the preceding year.

The Diseases notified were as follow :—

Small Pox	...	...	1 case.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	21 cases.
Diphtheria	...	...	6 „
Membranous Croup	...	...	1 case.
Enteric Fever	...	...	2 cases.
Erysipelas	...	...	10 „

Three of these cases were removed to the Sanitary Hospital, viz. :—1 of Small Pox, and 2 of Enteric Fever.

The following were the Parishes in which these cases occurred :—

	Small Pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Croup.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas.
Bagborough	1	...	...	...
Bishop's Hull	..	1	2	...	...	1
Cheddon	...	1	...	...	...	.
Creech	1	1	...	1
Churchstanton	1	...	...	...	...	1
Durston	...	5	...	...	...	...
Heathfield		1
Norton	1
Pitminster	...	5	...	...	...	...
Ruishton	1	...	...	...
Staplegrove	2	1
Stoke St. Mary	1
Stoke St. Gregory	...	2	...	...	...	2
Taunton St. James	...	1	...	..	...	...
Tolland	1
Trull	...	6	1	...	...	...
	1	21	6	1	2	10

2. THE SANITARY HOSPITAL.

Only five cases were admitted into the Sanitary Hospital during the year, from the Rural District, out of the total 69 cases admitted. As already stated, the District was comparatively free from Zymotic Diseases, and many of those reported occurred in the houses of the well-to-do, where isolation was practicable. Those cases which were admitted came from the following Parishes:—

	Small Pox.	Enteric Fever.	Measles.	Total.
Churchstanton	2	...	...	2
Ruishton	...	...	I	I
Staplegrove	...	2	...	2
	—	—	—	—
	2	2	I	5

The second case of Small Pox proved not to be one.

The total number of cases admitted into the Hospital since the opening in 1879 has been 1,397, of which 472 came from the Rural District.

3. DISINFECTION.

This has not been satisfactorily done, and in many cases where the persons were in a position to afford payment, a man has been sent from the town to carry it out. In other cases it has been left to the occupiers themselves, in which case, I need hardly say, it has not been very efficiently carried out.

4. SICKNESS IN 1894.

Small Pox.—A case of Small Pox occurred at Churchstanton, in July. The patient, a man, had within a fortnight landed in this country from America. He therefore evidently brought the disease with him. He was, after a time, removed to the Sanitary Hospital. A nurse who was with him was also sent to the Hospital, being thought to have contracted the disease; this, however, proved not to be the case. No other cases occurred.

Scarlet Fever occurred chiefly in the Parishes of Pitminster and Trull, but in both cases was confined to a few houses. Isolation not being properly carried out, the disease spread. At Pitminster the managers closed the schools, as the son of the master had it. At Durston the disease attacked six in one family; had the first case been sent to the Hospital, this would, in all probability, have been prevented.

Diphtheria.—Very few cases of this disease occurred. They were of a mild type and sporadic, and in all cases there were insanitary surroundings.

Typhoid (Enteric) Fever occurred at Staplegrove, and impure well water was found to exist.

But as I have previously stated, the District has been particularly free from disease, and had it not been for the mortality in the Taunton and Somerset Hospital and Union Workhouse of residents from the District, the death-rate would have been remarkably low.

Action taken during the Year 1895 for Sanitary Purposes, over Places and Houses.

1. SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

I have already mentioned in a previous part of my Report the chief works done with regard to Sewerage in the various parts of the District. These were at Staplegrove, Galmington, Bishop's Hull, Norton, and Trull. The results of these works cannot fail to tend to the better sanitary condition of the various Districts.

More attention has been paid to the emptying of cesspools, but more remains still to be done. If not looked after they are frequently left until they are full to overflowing. Many cases have occurred of very faulty construction. Constant supervision is absolutely necessary.

2. WATER SUPPLY.

This, too, I have dealt with in the early part of my Report.

I have made a large number of analyses of well water during the year, and wherever found impure (which is too frequently the case), the necessary steps have been taken to provide a pure supply.

3. NUISANCES.

The Reports of your Inspectors attached to this Report will show the number of nuisances reported during the year.

Early in the year the Inspector for the Southern District resigned, and was succeeded by Mr. J. J. Goode. A great nuisance occurred at Bathpool from the accumulation of Town refuse, and as no action was taken on notice being served, the case was brought before Justices, and an order for abatement and prevention of recurrence made. A large number of cases of nuisances, arising from defective drains and closets, accumulations of manure, &c., and animals kept in a filthy state, have all been dealt with during the year.

Overcrowding.—A few cases have been dealt with, but they are not so numerous as formerly.

4. HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

No action was required under this Act during the year.

Houses unfit for human habitation.—Only one case came under observation.

5. DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

These have been periodically inspected, and have not given rise to any action.

6. BAKEHOUSES AND SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

These have been reported as satisfactory. The good effect of your Bye-laws is shown in the marked improvement in the condition of these premises, which, in former times, were very unsatisfactory as a rule.

A large number of plans of new buildings have been laid before your Council during the year, and in all cases where not in compliance with the Bye-laws, have been referred back for alteration.

Appended to this Report are the Tables A and B of the Local Government Board, giving the mortality and sickness for the year, and also two Tables of your Inspectors, of the work done by them during the year.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HENRY J. ALFORD, M.D., LOND.,

Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF TAUNTON.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS FROM THE YEAR 1873 TO 1895.

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES.								Public Institutions, T. & S. Hospital, and Union Workhouse.
			Small Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough	Enteric Fever.	Diarrhoea.	Total.	
1873	421	227	...	...	3	...	8	1	6	18	43
1874	402	258	...	9	2	...	5	9	9	34	51
1875	392	258	...	...	...	...	...	6	14	20	63
1876	447	287	...	...	35	1	...	8	11	55	48
1877	424	291	...	5	7	2	19	7	11	51	57
1878	525	270	...	25	...	...	3	5	16	49	80
1879	478	309	...	1	1	...	18	4	8	32	78
1880	496	255	...	1	2	...	7	2	14	26	56
1881	513	276	...	32	1	4	7	1	6	51	71
1882	535	329	...	2	3	39	8	2	8	62	67
1883	533	299	...	...	2	12	...	6	5	25	62
1884	487	272	3	13	...	3	3	4	4	30	70
1885	543	330	14	...	6	4	7	1	15	65	76
1886	526	296	...	18	3	...	11	1	11	26	74
1887	491	252	...	6	1	2	10	...	13	32	76
1888	551	267	...	2	1	3	...	3	1	10	62
1889	538	238	...	2	...	2	...	...	5	9	59
1890	486	335	...	14	...	11	19	...	2	46	69
1891	555	331	...	5	...	2	1	...	3	11	69
1892	465	274	...	7	1	1	1	...	4	14	85
1893	558	347	...	27	3	2	17	1	12	62	93
1894	504	298	...	1	3	3	2	3	3	15	68
1895	576	288	...	...	1	1	13	...	10	25	70

TAUNTON URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT

Inspector of Nuisances' Report of the Sanitary Work Completed in the year 1895 (J. W. Northcombe, Certified Inspector).

Number of Complaints to Sanitary Officer		...	...	...	95
Number of Inspections, House to House, Premises, &c.		...	...	...	1048
Number of Re-inspections of Houses, Premises, &c.		...	...	...	143
Results of Inspection.	Orders issued for Sanitary Amendments of Houses, Premises, &c.	...	...	...	115
	Houses, Premises, &c., Cleaned, Repaired, Lime-washed, &c.	...	...	...	193
	Houses Disinfected after Illness of an Infectious Character				78
	Drains tested with Smoke Test	...	...	...	362
	Pollution of Stream	...	...	...	11
Drains (House).	Repaired, Cleansed, Trapped, Relaid	...	...	...	277
Water Closets.	Repaired	...	...	...	438
	Supplied with Water	...	...	...	13
	New Provided	...	...	...	5
Dust Bins.	Repaired, Covered, &c.	...	...	...	3
Water Supply.	Cisterns Newly Erected	...	...	...	7
	„ Cleaned, Repaired, Covered	...	...	...	33
	Houses Supplied with Corporation Water	...	...	...	25
	Wells unfit for use and Condemned	...	...	...	23
Miscellaneous.	Number of Lodging Houses Registered	...	...	...	2
	Dust Removal. Number of Communications received and attended to	...	...	...	531
	Removal of accumulation of Dung, Stagnant Water, Animal and other Refuse	...	...	...	17
	Animals Removed, being improperly kept	...	...	...	31
	Regularly Inspected.	Bakehouses	...	...	32
		Licensed Cowsheds	...	...	10
		Dairies and Milkshops, &c.	...	...	38
		Licensed Slaughter Houses	...	...	9

TAUNTON RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

*Inspector of Nuisances' Report of Sanitary Work Completed
in the Year 1895 (Thos. Goldsworthy Crump).*

No. of Complaints received during year		...	...	...	26
No. of Inspection of Houses, Premises, &c.		...	...	...	596
No. of Re-inspection of Houses, Premises, &c.		...	...	about	401
Results of Inspection.	Orders issued for Sanitary Amendments of Houses and Premises				} 177	
	Houses, Premises, &c., Cleaned, Repaired, White- washed, &c.					
	Houses Disinfected after Illness of an Infectious Character				5	
House Drains.	Repaired, Cleaned, Trapped, &c.				22	
	Ventilated				...	
Privies and W.C's.	Repaired, &c.				56	
	Supplied with Water				...	
	New Provided				16	
Dust Bins.	New Provided				...	
	Repaired, Covered, &c.				...	
Water Supply.	Cisterns (new) erected				7	
	Cisterns Cleaned, Repaired and Covered				12	
	Waste Pipes connected with drains, &c., abolished				...	
Miscellaneous.	No. of Lodging Houses Registered				...	
	Dust Removal, No. of Communications received and attended to				} 16	
	Removal of accumulation of Dung, Stagnant Water, Animal and other Refuse					
	Animals removed, being improperly kept				5	
	Regularly Inspected.	Bakehouses...				...
		Licensed Cowsheds				...
		Licensed Slaughter Houses				11
Legal Proceedings, <i>i.e.</i> , summonses					...	

TAUNTON RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

*Inspector of Nuisances' Report of Sanitary Work Completed
in the Year 1895 (Joseph J. Goode).*

No. of Complaints received during year		...	...	...	11
No. of Inspection of Houses, Premises, &c.		...	...	...	522
No. of Re-inspection of Houses, Premises, &c.		...	...	...	275
Results of Inspection.	Orders issued for Sanitary Amendments of Houses and Premises	...	...	...	120
	Houses, Premises, &c., Cleaned, Repaired, White-washed, &c.	...	...	...
	Houses Disinfected after Illness of an Infectious Character				5	
Drains. House	Repaired, Cleaned, Trapped, &c.	...	...	...	19
	Ventilated	...	...	...	...
Privies and W.C.'s.	Repaired, &c.	...	...	...	47
	Supplied with Water	...	...	...	...
	New Provided	...	...	...	13
Dust Bins.	New Provided	...	...	...	...
	Repaired, Covered, &c.	...	...	...	...
Water Supply.	Cisterns (new) Erected	...	...	...	...
	Cisterns Cleaned, Repaired and Covered			...	4	
	Waste Pipes connected with drains, &c., abolished				...	
Miscellaneous.	No. of Lodging Houses Registered	...	...	...	...
	Dust Removal, No. of communications received and attended to	...	...	...	15
	Removal of accumulation of Dung, Stagnant Water, Animal and other Refuse	...	...	...
	Animals removed, being improperly kept			...	32	
	Regularly Inspected.	Bakehouses
		Licensed Cowsheds
		Licensed Slaughter Houses	14
Legal Proceedings, <i>i.e.</i> , summonses		...	...	...	...

Table of Deaths during the year 1895, in the URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF TAUNTON,
(Table A). Classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

LOCALITIES AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS (a)	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES AT SUBJOINED AGES.							MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																											
	At all Ages (b)	Under 1 Year (c)	1 and under 5 (d)	5 and under 15 (e)	15 and under 25 (f)	25 and under 60 (g)	60 and upwards (h)	(i)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22					
									Small Pox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Fevers.					Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal	Cholera	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diarrhoea and Dysentery	Rheumatic Fever	Ague	Phthisis	Bronchitis Pneumonia and Pleurisy	Heart Disease	Injuries	All other Diseases	Total
Taunton St. Mary District.	116	38	13	1	3	20	41	under 5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	3	...	...	...	16	...	...	25	51
								over 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	9	7	1	40	65
Taunton St. James' District.	138	29	15	6	7	28	53	under 5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	7	...	...	...	5	...	...	24	44
								over 5	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	23	13	...	48	94
Taunton and Somerset Hospital.	49	4	3	4	14	17	7	under 5	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	4	7	
								over 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	2	5	5	23	42	
Union Workhouse.	21	...	...	...	...	3	18	under 5	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
								over 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	...	16	21
Totals.	324	71	31	11	24	68	119	under 5	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	11	...	...	...	22	...	1	53	102
								over 5	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	37	26	6	127	222

Table of Population, Births, and of new cases of Infectious Sickness coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the Year 1895, in the URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF TAUNTON, Classified according to the Diseases, Ages, and Localities.
(Table B).

LOCALITIES. (a)	Population at all Ages.	Registered Births (c)	Aged under 5 and over 5 (d)	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.											Number of such cases removed from their homes in the several Localities for treatment in the Isolation Hospital.										
	Census 1891 (b)			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
				Small Pox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Group	Fevers					Cholera	Erysipelas	Small Pox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Group	Fevers					Cholera	Erysipelas
								Typhus	Enteric, or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal							Typhus	Enteric, or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal		
Taunton St. Mary District.	9,105	237	under 5	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	...	17	10	1	...	5	...	...	1	...	4	...	12	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Taunton St. James' District.	8,921	339	under 5	...	8	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	1	25	8	2	...	1	...	...	...	8	1	22	10	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
Taunton and Somerset Hospital.	...	...	under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Union Workhouse.	...	...	under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals.	18,026	576	under 5	...	10	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	1	43	18	3	...	6	...	...	1	...	13	1	35	12	...	...	3	...	...	...	...

Notification of Infectious Diseases is compulsory in District since January 1st, 1890.
The Isolation Hospital (Taunton Sanitary Hospital) is situated in Taunton St. James' Without (Rural portion).

Table of Deaths during the year 1895, in the RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT OF TAUNTON,
(Table A).
Classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

LOCALITIES AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS (a)	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES AT SUBJOINED AGES.							MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.																						
	At all Ages (b)	Under 1 Year (c)	1 and under 5 (d)	5 and under 15 (e)	15 and under 25 (f)	25 and under 60 (g)	60 and upwards (h)	(i)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
									Small Pox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Fevers.					Cholera	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diarrhoea and Dysentery	Rheumatic Fever	Ague	Phthisis	Bronchitis Pneumonia and Pleurisy	Heart Disease	Injuries	All other Diseases	Total
													Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal													
1. Pitminster District.	38	8	2	2	1	6	19	under 5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	8	10
								5 upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	..	2	8	1	1	15	28
2. North Curry District.	82	17	6	1	2	16	40	under 5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	21	23
								5 upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	12	12	2	28	59
3. Taunton St. Mary District.	18	3	1	...	...	5	9	under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4
								5 upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	11	14
4. Taunton St. James' District.	79	20	3	2	2	16	36	under 5	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	...	...	17	23
								5 upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	6	1	39	56
5. Bishop's Lydeard District.	51	6	4	...	5	9	27	under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	6	10
								5 upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	7	9	2	17	41
6. Sanitary Hospital.	5	...	...	3	1	1	...	under 5	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
								5 upwards	...	...	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5
Totals.	273	54	16	8	11	53	131	under 5	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	11	...	...	55	70
								5 upwards	2	1	...	1	1	...	19	33	29	6	111	203

Table of Population, Births, and of new cases of Infectious Sickness coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the Year 1895, in the RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT OF TAUNTON, Classified according to the Diseases, Ages, and Localities.
(Table B).

LOCALITIES. (a)	Population at all Ages.	Registered Births (c)	Aged under 5 and over 5 (d)	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.											Number of such cases removed from their homes in the several Localities for treatment in the Isolation Hospital.															
	Census 1891 (b)			I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11					
				Small Pox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membraneous Croup	Fevers					Typhus	Cholera	Erysipelas	Small Pox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membraneous Croup	Fevers					Typhus	Cholera	Erysipelas			
								Enteric, or Typhoid	Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal	Enteric, or Typhoid								Continued	Relapsing	Puerperal								
Pitminster District.	4,325	105	under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	1	11	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
North Curry District.	5,147	162	under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	...	7	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Taunton St. Mary District.	968	27	under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Taunton St. James' District.	5,117	137	under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	...	3	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bishop's Lydeard District.	3,196	74	under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals.	18,753	505	under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	1	21	6	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	10	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Notification of Infectious Diseases is compulsory in District since November, 1889.

The Isolation Hospital (Taunton Sanitary Hospital) is situated in Taunton St. James' Without (Rural portion).

ANNUAL REPORT,
FOR THE YEAR 1895,
OF THE
TAUNTON SANITARY
HOSPITAL.

BY
HENRY J. ALFORD, M.D., LOND.,
MEDICAL OFFICER TO THE INSTITUTION.

COMMITTEE:

Mr. A. HUTCHINGS

Mr. T. MUSGRAVE

Mr. A. VILLAR

Mr. W. GOODLAND

Mr. W. A. WRENN

Mr. G. WEBBER

MEDICAL OFFICER:

DR. ALFORD.

MATRON:

MISS R. REYNOLDS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1895

OF THE

TAUNTON SANITARY HOSPITAL.

BY

HENRY J. ALFORD, M.D., LOND., F.C.S.,
Medical Officer to the Institution.

TAUNTON, January, 1896.

To the Sanitary Hospital Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Fifteenth Annual Report of the Taunton Sanitary Hospital.

Although the numbers admitted are less than the two previous years, nevertheless, cases were admitted during every month of the year.

I. CASES ADMITTED DURING THE YEAR.

The total number of cases admitted from January 1st to December 31st, 1895, were 69. This brings the total number of cases admitted since the opening of the Hospital in 1879 to 1,397.

The yearly admissions have been as follows:—

From July, 1879 to September, 1880	...	42
„ Oct., 1880 „ „ 1881	...	19
„ „ 1881 „ „ 1882	...	76
„ „ 1882 „ „ 1883	...	64
„ „ 1883 „ „ 1884	...	127
„ „ 1884 „ „ 1885	...	205
„ „ 1885 „ „ 1886	...	60
„ „ 1886 „ „ 1887	...	93
„ „ 1887 „ „ 1888	...	63
„ „ 1888 „ „ 1889	...	25
„ „ 1889 „ „ 1890	...	79
„ „ 1890 „ „ 1891	...	70
„ „ 1891 to December, 1892	...	44
„ Jan., 1893 „ „ 1893	...	185
„ „ 1894 „ „ 1894	...	176
„ „ 1895 „ „ 1895	...	69

2. DISEASES ADMITTED DURING 1895.

The Diseases admitted during the year were as follow :—

Small Pox	...	...	...	3 cases.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	45 „
Diphtheria	...	...	...	15 „
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	5 „
Measles	...	...	...	1 „

Total 69 cases.

One of these cases of Small Pox was admitted as such, but proved not to be so.

3. LOCALITIES.

Of these 69 cases, 64 were from the Urban and only 5 from the Rural Sanitary District of Taunton.

This is very remarkable, seeing that in past years the relative proportions have been two Urban to one Rural case. The Rural District during the past year was particularly free from Zymotic Disease of all kinds.

The details are as follow :—

I. URBAN CASES.

	Small Pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Totals.
Taunton St. Mary } District	...	15	3	...	18
Taunton St. James } District	1	30	12	3	46
	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	45	15	3	64

II. RURAL CASES.

	Small Pox.	Enteric Fever.	Measles.	Totals.
Churchstanton	2	...	...	2
Ruishton	...	...	1	1
Staplegrove	...	2	...	2
	—	—	—	—
Totals	2	2	1	5

The number of cases admitted from the Urban and Rural Districts each year since the opening of the Hospital, is as follow ;—

	Urban Cases.		Rural Cases.		Totals.
1879-80	...	19	...	23	42
1880-81	...	11	...	8	19
1881-82	...	63	...	13	76
1882-83	...	29	...	35	64
1883-84	...	70	...	57	127
1884-85	...	166	...	39	205
1885-86	...	46	...	14	60
1886-87	...	47	...	46	93
1887-88	...	27	...	39	63
1888-89	...	16	...	9	25
1889-90	...	58	...	21	79
1890-91	..	29	...	41	70
1891-92	...	26	...	18	44
1892-93	...	120	...	62	182
1893-94	...	132	...	44	176
1894-95	...	64	...	5	69
	922		472		1,394

To this total must be added 3 cases which came from without both districts, and thus raising the total to December 31st, 1895, to 1,397.

SEXES.

Of the 69 cases, 39 were males, and 30 females.

AGES.

The ages of Patients admitted were as follow:—

Under 1 year	1 to 5 years	5 to 15 years	15 to 25 years	25 to 60 years	Over 60 years
0	14	38	7	9	1

MONTHLY ADMISSIONS.

The monthly admissions during 1895, were as follow:—

Month.	Small Pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Measles.	Total.
January	...	5	3	...	1	9
February	...	4	1	...	...	5
March	...	2	1	...	...	3
April	...	4	...	...	...	4
May	...	1	2	...	...	3
June	...	4	...	1	...	5
July	1	4	1	...	...	6
August	2	5	1	...	...	8
September	...	5	...	4	...	9
October	...	3	2	...	...	5
November	...	3	3	...	...	6
December	...	5	1	...	...	6
	3	45	15	5	1	69

It will thus be observed that Patients were admitted during every month in the year. Especially was this the case with scarlet fever.

PROGRESS OF CASES.

Of the 69 cases admitted, only 4 ended fatally. These were, 2 deaths from Diphtheria, 1 from Enteric Fever, and one from Spinal Disease. This last was a case from the Taunton and Somerset Hospital. It was admitted there suffering from Disease of the Spine with multiple Abscesses. A few days after admission, Scarlet Fever showed itself, and he was sent to our Hospital. The attack was mild, and from it he completely recovered, but sank from the Spinal Disease.

GENERAL WORKING OF THE HOSPITAL DURING THE YEAR 1895.

In the beginning of the year the drainage of the Hospital was thoroughly overhauled, and put into a satisfactory condition. Although originally laid externally to the buildings, still various faults were found which demanded attention. The old W.C.'s were also in an unsatisfactory condition. They were all replaced by Pedestal Closets of the most approved pattern. The end of the Town sewer, moreover, was thoroughly ventilated, and an interceptor placed between it and the Hospital Drain.

The Drainage of the Hospital may, therefore, now be looked upon as perfectly satisfactory.

In the month of July, Miss Drakard having been elected Matron to the Plaistow Fever Hospital, West Ham, E., resigned her post, and Miss R. Reynolds, of the Linacre Fever Hospital, Liverpool, was elected Matron in her place, there being no less than 51 applicants for the post.

The general working of the Hospital during the year has been very satisfactory. Most of the cases have been of a mild type. This especially applies to the Scarlet Fever cases. It thus has happened that our own staff of nurses has been able to do the work without much external assistance.

COST OF THE HOSPITAL DURING THE YEAR.

The working expenses of the Hospital have been kindly given me by Mr. Norris (the Borough Accountant). The total cost was £599 3s. 2d. This includes Salaries, Gas, Coal, Water, Groceries, Meat, Bread, Milk, and other expenses connected with the ordinary working of the Hospital, as also

Horse Hire for ambulance, Rates and Taxes, &c. These various items are made up as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Salaries, Wages, and sundry payments	265	8	9
Bread and Flour	14	13	4
Meat, Butter and Milk	134	5	7
Groceries, &c.	42	4	4
Ale, Wine, and Spirits	8	7	6
Coals	41	11	9
Gas and Water	50	3	5
Disinfectants, &c.	23	1	4
Horse Hire for Ambulance	10	14	10
Rates and Fire Insurance	5	8	11
Printing and Stationery	2	13	5
	<u>£599</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>

I cannot conclude this Report without thanking your Committee for much kind and valuable assistance during the year.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HENRY J. ALFORD, M.D.,

Medical Officer to Hospital.

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